

IC-72-0226

25 March 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ASD(I) and DoD Participation in CIRIS Improvement Study

1. In mid-January 1972, the DCI/IC staff initiated an in-house study to review CIRIS and its constituent data systems. It was the objective of this study group to recommend modifications required to make CIRIS, as a community management information system, responsive to the needs of the DCI and his supporting staff. A copy of the implementing memorandum and Terms of Reference for the study group is attached.

2. In mid-March 1972, incident to a briefing on CIRIS and its application throughout the intelligence community presented to Dr. Hall, ASD(I), it was proposed that participation in this study effort be considered by the ASD(I) staff and perhaps other components of the DoD intelligence community. It is the purpose of this memorandum to lay out procedures to accomplish this, to identify desired participants, and to discuss actions to be considered by a DCI-DoD study group.

3. This proposal is predicated on the basic assumption that CIRIS, as an existing system, can and will be used as the basis for a Defense and community system. Innovations as well as modifications for improvement should be applied to CIRIS in the first instance, in order to achieve community agreement.

4. The DCI staff study group has made some progress toward identifying needs for CIRIS-type data among the major functional elements of the staff, and has tentatively identified some areas where modifications to the system would produce greater responsiveness. Actions to simplify the requested data inputs have also been discussed. To the extent appropriate, these tentative findings can be shared with interested or involved DoD activities.

5. As to study procedures, it is suggested that the ASD(I) create a CIRIS Working Group within DoD. Rear Admiral Showers, chairman of the DCI study group, could then meet with the DoD group to provide interface between the DCI and the DoD groups, and [redacted] who provides technical support to the DCI group, could also participate. Thus, the DoD group could meet unilaterally or with DCI staff participation, as preferred by the chairman. Terms of reference for the DoD group could be patterned after those for the DCI group. It should be the intent to have the two groups work together as much as possible. It should be our mutual concern that neither group, proceeding independently, goes so far as to present the other with firm proposals for major changes that represent a fait accompli.

6. Membership on the DoD group should include representatives of the CDIP Program Managers, probably under ASD(I) staff chairmanship. The Military Departments could be represented, or could be called in as needed for consultation. The Service involvement in the GDIP would be the primary reason for Service representation.

7. Following are points which a DoD CIRIS Working Group may wish to consider:

(a) Identity of the purposes to be served for the benefit of senior review echelons and Program Managers by an intelligence management information system.

(b) Identity of primary content, level of detail and format for compilation and presentation of a management information system.

(c) Desired modifications to existing CIRIS, in order to satisfy points identified under (a) and (b), above, to the greatest extent possible, consistent with DCI needs. (It is anticipated that DCI and DoD needs and desired responsiveness will have significant similarities and no great dissimilarities.)

(d) Specification of timeliness of data inputs and setting of thresholds of detail. Identify inputs to be made at periodic intervals and those to be made on initiative or as-occurring bases.

(e) Steps which can be taken, particularly within GDIP, to centralize management data in Washington in order to enable Program Managers to provide inputs to the community system with minimum calls on field activities.

(f) Measures to stimulate use of a community system (CIRIS or as modified) by senior review echelons and participating Program Managers in order to develop system utility and exercise responsiveness.

14 January 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Admiral Showers ✓



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SUBJECT: CIRIS Study Group

1. The addressees of this memorandum will constitute a study group, under the chairmanship of Admiral Showers, to review CIRIS and its constituent data systems. The responsibilities of the DCI staff since the issuance of the President's memorandum on 5 November last have considerably broadened the responsibilities of this staff. It is thus essential that we review and update past procedures, where that seems necessary, and CIRIS and its essential ties to the community require such a study as a first order of business.

2. The Terms of Reference of this study group are attached and I would hope that the review can be completed by no later than 1 July 1972.

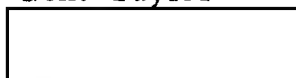
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Bronson Tweedy
D/DCI/NIPE

Attach.

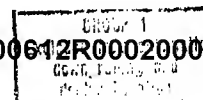
cc: Mr. Parrott
Gen. Taylor



Gen. Thomas

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SECRET



14 January 1972

SUBJECT: Terms of Reference for CIRIS Study Group

PROBLEM: To conduct a review of CIRIS in order to recommend modifications required to make the data system responsive to the needs of the DCI and his supporting staff.

TASKS:

1. Review the current structure and data capabilities of CIRIS.
2. Identify the evolving needs of the DCI in his new IC role.
3. Identify the particular needs of the individual elements of the IC staff.
4. Understand the program and data structures, as they relate to CIRIS, currently existing in component programs.
5. Identify, as appropriate, major difficulties encountered by component program managers in providing CIRIS inputs in a meaningful and manageable form.
6. Recommend restructuring of CIRIS as necessary to respond to Tasks 2 and 3 above.
7. Insofar as problems identified under Task 5 may suggest CIRIS restructuring, evaluate the nature and usefulness of the data required against the difficulties encountered in providing same.
8. Perform such other CIRIS-related tasks as may develop or be put before the Review Group.

SCHEDULE: The CIRIS data call for 1972 has progressed too far to be affected by the results of this review. Therefore, recommendations of the review will be aimed at necessary revisions for 1973. To accomplish this in an orderly manner, an initial target date for completion of the review is 1 July 1972.